

A MENTAL PUZZLE.

Double consciousness developed by an attack of illness.

Speaking of instances of double consciousness, Mental Science notes the following case:

The patient was a girl, twenty-two years of age. She suffered from some condition that may have been meningitis, but this is not known positively. She then developed acute mental excitement. During this illness the patient presented some remarkable changes of personality—such as are even in hysteria. The author does not give the different varieties of personality manifested by the patient that are quite interesting. Thus the patient had spells of blindness, deafness, paralysis, etc. The most interesting of these manifestations, because they were easy to explain, was the patient's ability to draw the full figure of a man, etc., during her spells of blindness. To convince himself that this was the actual case the author held a book between the patient's eyes and the sheet of paper on which she was drawing or put his hands before her eyes while she was drawing without in any way interfering with her drawing. Her sense of touch was highly sensitive during that period; she could detect a line drawn across her drawing paper, dates written at the top of her drawing paper, merely by touching the paper where the protruding lines had been drawn. During her normal state the patient could never draw either before or after her illness.

FRIENDSHIPS.

Differences Between Those of Men and Those of Women.

One difference between men and women in their relation to friendship is that a man's friends like him in spite of himself; a woman's friends or acquaintances care for her because of herself, because of her powers of agreeability, her tact or her charm.

A man may be as good as he likes an occasion. He may swear at his best friend and treat him as evilly as he pleases, yet that friend will wait in patience for "the old man to come round," knowing well that beneath the surface are a kindly heart and a willingness to share a last word with him.

With her friends a woman may take no such liberty. The kind heart and the good intentions count for nothing beside a woman's bad manners and lack of taste in the treatment of her nearest and dearest, and exasperation is swift and sure. Nothing excuses her, and she is rarely forgiven. Nor would she expect to be forgiven. Not possessing that large patience undeniably necessary to friendship or the power of forgiving and waiting for the "grouch" to blow over, she does not look for forgiveness when she has sinned against these laws of a woman's making.

Either she gives up her friend and contents herself quite placidly with an adviser. But then, as we said before, a woman has no genius for friendship.

Lugubrious Media.

It seems, by the way, almost forgotten that it was with a lugubrious of 18— that Mr. Barrie made his first bow as a dramatist. His travesty of "Hedda Gabler" was one of the most delicious pieces of fooling ever seen at the theatre, and in it Mr. Toole (as Barrie himself), George Shanon as Tesman and Miss Irene Vanbrugh as a friend of Thora and Hedda were delighted. In one scene Tesman was busy writing a review when Hedda entered, and the following dialogue took place:

Tesman (looking up)—Thora—
Hedda (angrily)—I am not Thora.
Tesman—Thora, Hedda, is there a k in "Christianity?"
Hedda (very slowly and solemnly)—There is nothing in Christianity.
Tesman—Pence that—London Pall Mall Gazette.

Napoleon and Beet Sugar.

Although the great Napoleon was not the sort of man whom it was necessary to laugh at, he was ridiculed and caricatured on account of his faith that sugar could be made profitably from beets. In 1811 the emperor presented the French people that they should have sugar from beets if he extracted from France the commerce of England, including the sugars of the British West Indies. This promise led to the publication of a caricature in which the emperor and his little son, the King of Rome, were represented. The emperor was shown sitting in his boy's nursery, squeezing a beet root into a cup of coffee. The little prince sat near him, holding a beet root, while the nurse, standing close by, was represented as exclaiming, "What a dear, suck it; your papa says it is sugar!" This biting sarcasm did not prevent Napoleon from spending several million francs at a time when his empire was under a tremendous strain of expenditures in battles for sugar made from beets.

Dr. Mannoche, the famous Dresden authority on sleep phenomena, says that rocking is an artificial method of inducing slumber. The process fastens consciousness by a series of monotonous sensations and incidentally depletes the brain of its blood supply. Absence of blood from the brain makes sleep. The influence of the lullaby is detectable, but not equally. A baby will go to sleep unaided and it sleeps deep.

The Homecoming.

Quick—do Miss Tarran (screamed up and down a good word about me, did she? Another—Yes, she said that when she was better acquainted with you she found you were not half as big a

SPIDER SILK.

The Way the Thread Is Taken From the Imprisoned Insect.

The American consul at Tamatave, Madagascar, sends an interesting report on the manufacture of silk from spiders' web.

The first difficulty in securing the thread direct from the Madagascar spider ("Lalabe," big spider, the natives call her) was met with in devising a suitable holder to secure the living spider while winding off the web. This was originally performed by confining the spiders in empty match boxes with their abdomens protruding, thus making so many living reels. The extraction of the web does not apparently inconvenience the insects, although care has to be taken not to injure them. From that stage has been evolved a frame of twenty-four small gillnettes, in each of which a spider is secured in such a manner that on one side protrudes the abdomen, while on the other the head, thorax and legs are free. The precaution of keeping the legs out of the way is necessary, because the spiders, when their secretion is spun off in this fashion, are liable to break off the web with their legs.

The spider submits without resistance to the winding off of its thread. After the laying period or formation of the web it can be reeled off five or six times in the course of a month, after which the spider dies, having yielded about 4,000 yards. Native girls do the work.

Equine Sagacity.

First Lieutenant—How do you like the horse you bought from me last week? Second Lieutenant—Very much. He might hold his head a little higher, though. First Lieutenant—Oh, that will come all right when he is paid for.—Stuversblad.

The Cloven Foot.

"So your engagement with Jack is broken off?"
"Yes."
"Did he exhibit the cloven hoof?"
"No, the cloven breath."—Houston Post.

There is nothing so true that the damps of error have not warped it.—Tupper.

A Bride's Misapprehension.

It was the first Sunday in their pretty new flat, and Mrs. G. determined to celebrate the joyous day with a dinner which would make her young husband think he had married not only "the sweetest girl in the world," but "the best cook." It was perfectly lovely to set the little round dining room table with the nicest presents, and the preparation of a tempting salad and dessert was not exactly a trying ordeal, but the roasting of the chicken made her a little nervous. After succeeding, with the assistance of a large oilcloth book, in getting the fowl into the oven she sang from sheer relief. A little later, when the music had ceased and the silence in the kitchen became suspicious, Mr. G. opened the door. Kneeling down before the oven, with flushed face and tearful eyes, was Mrs. G. On the floor beside her was the cookbook, and in one hand was a long needle with white thread. "Oh, dearie," she cried, "it is going to burn my hands just dreadfully to baste this chicken every fifteen minutes!"—What to Eat.

Sporting Repartee.

It is doubtful, said a biographer, if any repartee ever surpassed in delicacy the reply made by an East Indian servant of the late Lord Dufferin when he was viceroy of India.

"Well, what sort of sport has Lord — had?" said the viceroy one day to his shikaree, or sporting servant, who had attended a young English lord on a shooting excursion.
"Oh," replied the scrupulously polite Hindoo, "the young sahib shot divinely, but Providence was very merciful to the birds!"

This story calls to mind one told by the writer of some reminiscences of Sydney Smith. On one occasion the celebrated physician, Sir Henry Holland, told the witty divine that he had failed to kill either one of a brace of pheasants that had risen within easy range near Smith's house.
"Why did you not prescribe for them?" came the quick reply.

Strange Bedfellows.

Pop—When I was a boy I used to go to bed with the chickens.
Tommy—Did the chickens used to sleep in the house or did you go out to the coop, pop?—Yonkers Statesman.

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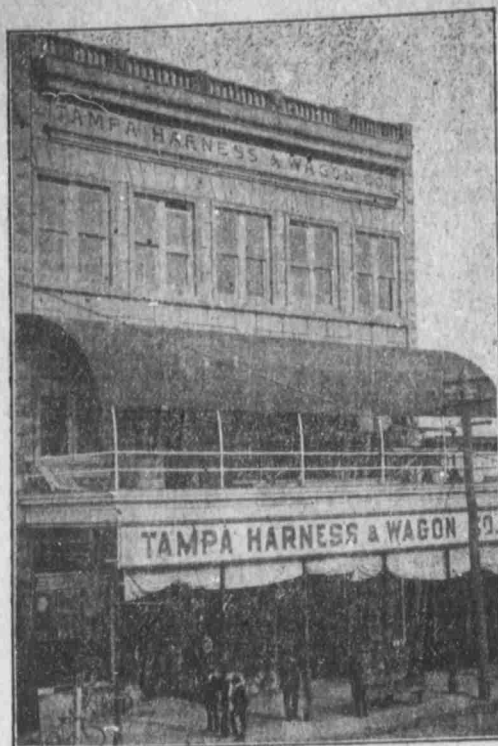
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